

News from Senator

BOB DOLE



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DOLE SAYS "HEAT IS ON" BALANCED BUDGET AMENDMENT

WASHINGTON -- SENATE MAJORITY LEADER BOB DOLE (R-KS.) SAID TODAY THE FAILURE OF MICHIGAN TO CALL FOR A FEDERAL BALANCED BUDGET AMENDMENT "PUTS THE HEAT ON CONGRESS" TO ACT ON A CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT THAT WOULD LEAD TO A BALANCED BUDGET.

"The battle in the Michigan House was hard-fought, and no one can criticize the Members of House for their approach to this issue. I regret that my side lost, but I salute the GOP leadership in Lansing, and those Democrats who joined them in this battle, for making a gallant try," Dole said.

Senator Dole made a personal commitment this year to the cause of the balanced budget amendment in Michigan, and encouraged support for the amendment in a visit and telephone calls to Lansing.

"It appears to me that the issue of a possible Constitutional Convention distracted some in Michigan from the real issue: giving the Federal government an overriding mandate to be fiscally responsible and put an end to perpetual deficit spending," Dole added.

"The Michigan vote doesn't make our job in Washington any easier, but at least it may clear the air," Senator Dole continued. "The issue before Congress is whether or not we will make a real binding commitment to long-term fiscal restraint. That issue cannot be evaded and it will be faced in the Senate. I urge the coalition that has worked so hard in Michigan -- a broad-based coalition truly representing the will of the people -- to redirect their efforts to helping us pass the balanced budget amendment in Congress this year."